

REMARKS

Claim Rejections

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Quadrini (U.S. 5,112,326).

Drawings

It is noted that no Patent Drawing Review (Form PTO-948) was received with the outstanding Office Action. Thus, Applicant must assume that the drawings are acceptable as filed.

Abstract of the Disclosure

Applicant is submitting a substitute Abstract of the Disclosure for that originally filed with this application to more clearly describe the claimed invention. Entry of the substitute Abstract of the Disclosure is respectfully requested.

New Claim

By this Amendment, Applicant has canceled claim 1 and has added new claim 2 to this application. It is believed that the new claim specifically sets forth each element of Applicant's invention in full compliance with 35 U.S.C. § 112, and define subject matter that is patentably distinguishable over the cited prior art.

The new claim is directed toward a buckling device for a disposable article comprising: a fleece sticker (211) located on a front piece (21) of the disposable article (20); and two adjusting buckle belts (23), one of the two adjusting buckle belts is located on each of two opposing sides of a rear piece (22) of the disposable article, each of the two adjusting buckle belts having a buckling section (231) having: a plurality of fastening fasteners (2311), each of the plurality of fastening fasteners extending from a first edge to a second edge of the buckling section and being removably connected to the fleece sticker; and at least one flexible soft facet (2312), one of the at least one flexible soft facet is located between and separating each set of two adjacent fastening fasteners of the plurality of fastening fasteners.

The cited reference to Quadrini teaches an adjustable diaper having a breech portion (14) having an upper ledge (18) having two wing portions (24, 26), first and second fastener tapes (32, 52), Velcro patches (28, 31). The first fastener (32) is located on a front lap (12). The second fasteners (52) and the Velcro patches (28, 31) are located on the two wing portions. Quadrini states, column 4, lines 41-48:

FIG. 12 illustrates the wing portion 24 folded over itself so as to hide the VELCRO tape 28 under certain conditions and especially when laundering the diaper 10. Considering that VELCRO tapes are made of hooks and loops, the VELCRO patch 28 which is made of hooks will adhere to the patch 52 made of loops. The wing portion 24 is merely folded along the arrow 54 to eliminate the wear and tear of both patches 28 and 52.

The Velcro patches (28, 31) are connected to either the second fasteners (52) or the first fastener (32). However, Quadrini does not teach the first fastener (32) being connected to the second fasteners (52).

Quadrini does not teach each of the two adjusting buckle belts having a buckling section (231) having a plurality of fastening fasteners (2311); each of the plurality of fastening fasteners extending from a first edge to a second edge of the buckling section; nor does Quadrini teach each of the plurality of fastening fasteners being removably connected to the fleece sticker.

It is axiomatic in U.S. patent law that, in order for a reference to anticipate a claimed structure, it must clearly disclose each and every feature of the claimed structure. Applicant submits that it is abundantly clear, as discussed above, that Quadrini does not disclose each and every feature of Applicant's new claims and, therefore, could not possibly anticipate these claims under 35 U.S.C. § 102. Absent a specific showing of these features, Quadrini cannot be said to anticipate Applicant's new claim under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

It is further submitted that Quadrini does not disclose, or suggest any modification of the specifically disclosed structures that would lead one having ordinary skill in the art to arrive at Applicant's claimed structure. Thus, it is not believed that Quadrini renders obvious Applicant's new claim under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Application No. 10/790,807


Summary

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that this application is now in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. Should any points remain in issue, which the Examiner feels could best be resolved by either a personal or a telephone interview, it is urged that Applicant's local attorney be contacted at the exchange listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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